

Listing of Claims

What is claimed is:

1. (original) An offset utility holding device configured to be attached to a utility structure and to carry elongated objects, comprising:
 - a support base configured to be attached to the utility structure;
 - an offset mounting stem extending upwardly at an incline from the support base;
 - a holding member disposed atop the offset mounting stem, the holding member including
 - a generally “U” -shaped member having two upright arms and being open at the top so as to define a containment area configured to receive an elongate object;
 - and
 - the holding member being disposed away from a space directly above the utility structure, such that the elongate object does not interfere with said space.
2. (original) The utility holding device according to claim 1, wherein the holding member includes opposingly inclined resilient surfaces disposed in the containment area of the “U” -shaped member, for gripping objects placed therein.
3. (original) The utility holding device according to claim 1, wherein the holding member includes hold-down attachments disposed on an outside surface of the “U” -shaped member.

4. (original) The utility holding device according to claim 1, wherein the holding member includes balls atop the upright arms of the “U” -shaped member.

5. (original) The utility holding device according to claim 1, wherein the support base is pivotable with respect to the utility structure, such that the holding member may be rotated to more securely grip elongate objects therein.

6. (original) The utility holding device according to claim 1, wherein the support base further comprises:

a base member having a bottom surface;

a u-bolt attached to the base member, and configured to surround a bar of the utility structure and secure the bottom surface of the base member thereto.

7. (original) The utility holding device according to claim 6, wherein the orientation of the u-bolt relative to the base member is selectively adjustable, whereby the base member may be secured to the bar in any of a plurality of angular orientations relative to a substantially vertical axis.

8. (original) The utility holding device according to claim 1, wherein:
the utility structure comprises a flat panel having top and bottom sides; and
the support base further comprises:

a base member having a bottom surface, the bottom surface being disposed against the top side of the flat panel such that the offset mounting stem and holding member extend away from said top surface; and

a bolt extending through the flat panel, and attached to the base member so as to secure the base member to the flat panel.

9. (original) The utility holding device according to claim 1, wherein the utility structure is selected from the group consisting of a vehicle cargo rack, a treestand railing, a treestand footrest, vehicle handlebars, and a kickboat frame.

10. (original) A utility holding system configured to be attached to a vehicle and to carry elongated objects, comprising:

a cargo rack disposed on the vehicle, having a cargo space vertically thereabove; and

a holder attached to the cargo rack, including:

- (1) a support base attached to the cargo rack;
- (2) an offset mounting stem extending upwardly at an incline from the support base; and
- (3) a holding member disposed atop the offset mounting stem and substantially outside the cargo space, and configured to receive an elongate object therein.

11. (original) The utility holding system according to claim 10, wherein the holding member comprises a generally “U” -shaped containment area having two upright arms and being open at the top.

12. (original) The utility holding system according to claim 11, wherein the holding member further comprises opposingly inclined resilient surfaces disposed in the containment area of the “U” -shaped member, for gripping objects placed therein.

13. (original) The utility holding system according to claim 10, wherein the support base is pivotable about a substantially vertical axis, such that the holding member may be rotated to more securely grip elongate objects therein.

14. (original) The utility holding system according to claim 10, wherein the support base further comprises:

a base member having a bottom surface;

a u-bolt attached to the base member, and configured to be tightened to grip the bar of the cargo rack to secure it against the bottom surface of the base member.

15. (original) The utility holding system according to claim 10, further comprising a plurality of holders attached to the cargo rack and disposed in alignment such that an elongate object may be supported by the plurality of holders.

16. (original) An offset utility holding system configured to carry elongated objects, comprising:

- a cargo rack having an edge and a cargo space thereabove;
- a first support base, attached to the edge of the cargo rack;
- a first offset mounting stem, extending upwardly at an incline from the first support base and away from the cargo space; and
- a first holding member disposed atop the first offset mounting stem and configured to receive an elongate object therein, and hold the elongate object substantially outside the cargo space.

17. (original) The utility holding system according to claim 16, wherein the first support base is pivotable about a substantially vertical axis, such that the first holding member may be rotated to more securely grip elongate objects therein.

18. (original) The utility holding system according to claim 16, further comprising:
- a second support base attached to the edge of the cargo rack;
 - a second offset mounting stem extending upwardly at an incline from the second support base and away from the cargo space; and
 - a second holding member disposed atop the second offset mounting stem and configured to receive an elongate object therein, the second holding member being disposed in alignment with the first holding member such that an elongate object may be supported by the first and second holding members and disposed substantially outside the cargo space.

19. (original) The utility holding system according to claim 16, wherein the holding member comprises a generally “U” -shaped containment area having two upright arms and being open at the top, and includes opposingly inclined resilient surfaces disposed in the containment area of the “U” -shaped member, for gripping objects placed therein.

20. (new) The holding device of claim 1, wherein the mounting stem and support base are formed as an integral unit.

21. (new) The holding device of claim 1, wherein the support base terminates at a point where the offset mounting stem extends from the support base.

22. (new) An offset utility holding device configured to be attached to a utility structure and to carry elongated objects, comprising:

a support base configured to be attached to the utility structure;

an offset mounting stem extending upwardly at an incline from the support base;

a holding member disposed atop the offset mounting stem at a point below a center of the

holding member, the holding member including a generally “U” -shaped member

having two upright arms and being open at the top so as to define a containment

area configured to receive an elongate object; and

the holding member being disposed away from a space directly above the utility structure,

such that the elongate object does not interfere with said space.

23. (new) An offset utility holding device configured to be attached to a utility structure and to carry elongated objects, comprising:

- a support base configured to be attached to the utility structure;
- a holding member disposed upwardly and outwardly from the support base, the holding member including a generally “U” -shaped member having two upright arms and being open at the top so as to define a containment area configured to receive an elongate object;
- the holding member being disposed away from a space directly above the utility structure, such that the elongate object does not interfere with said space; and
- a mounting stem, coupled between a top of the support base and a bottom of the holding member, the mounting stem maintaining the holding member in the upward and outward disposition.

24. (new) An offset utility holding device configured to be attached to a utility structure and to carry elongated objects, comprising:

- a support base configured to be attached to the utility structure;
- an offset mounting stem extending upwardly at an incline from the support base at a termination point of the support base;
- a holding member disposed atop the offset mounting stem, the holding member including a generally “U” -shaped member having two upright arms and being open at the top so as to define a containment area configured to receive an elongate object;
- and

the holding member being disposed away from a space directly above the utility structure, such that the elongate object does not interfere with said space.